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THOMPSON, A. H. *The Ground-Plan of the English Parish Church.* Cambridge University Press. xiii+138 pages. $0.40.

THOMPSON, A. H. *The Historical Growth of the English Parish Church.* Cambridge University Press. viii+142 pages. $0.40 net.

WORKMAN, H. B. *Methodism.* New York: Putnam, 1911 and 1912; Cambridge University Press. $0.40 each net.

The "Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature" have already won the recognition that they deserve. We welcome three more of these interesting little volumes, each of which is written by a competent authority, and can therefore be relied upon by the general reader. The advantage of these manuals is that they bring their subjects strictly up to date.

Mr. Thompson's two volumes supplement each other, giving in rapid but clear outline the illustrated ground-plan and development of the English parish church. Perhaps no other person was so well qualified as Mr. Workman to present methodism in a nutshell.

GEM, S. HARVEY. *An Anglo-Saxon Abbot.* Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1912. xvi+200 pages.

Appreciating the defects of most manuals of church history resulting from packing too much material in inadequate space, Mr. Gem has chosen to illuminate a single point in the great subject. His Anglo-Saxon abbot is Ælfric of Eynsham. He was born in 955 and his career was a strong fight for promotion of Christian knowledge among all classes; for temperance reform; and to arouse his countrymen to defensive military service against the devastating incursions of the Danes.

The book begins with chapters on Early Monasticism, Anglo-Saxon literature, and the chronicle of the Danish wars—thus giving the historical environment in which the abbot is to do his work. The account is made lifelike by numerous and extensive citations from the contemporary sources, and from Ælfric's own writings.

The one who reads this little volume through will have a very good view and appreciation of certain important phases of England in the time of Æthelred the Unready.

BUTZ, GEORGE S. *The Rise of the Modern Spirit in Europe.* Boston; Sherman, French & Co., 1912. 293 pages. $1.25 net.

In a popular style Dr. Butz has given the results of his extensive reading and long reflection on the forces that have made modern civilization. He has chosen the centuries preceding the Reformation, and with large sympathies seeks to bring about a reconciliation between Protestantism and humanism.

He gives an extensive bibliography which would have been much improved by classification.

ROBINSON, FR. PASCHAL. *The Rule of St. Clare.* Philadelphia: The Dolphin Press, 1912. 32 pages. $0.10 net.

At the present time the Order of St. Clare numbers 11,330 religious and has 599 monasteries. This neat pamphlet is a contribution by a competent scholar to the seventh centenary of the saint's call worked up in the light of early documents.